



# The Surf Pines Breeze

*The Association Newsletter for All Members*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	Linda Thompson	2370 Manion Drive	738-5365
V. President:	Norma Keever	2006 Ocean Drive	738-5069
Secretary:	Marge Bloomfield	2364 Manion Drive	738-8672
Treasurer:	Mickie Chopping	2265 Lakeside Ct.	717-0226
Gates & Security:	Gene Keever	2006 Ocean Drive	738-5069
Hospitality:	Sally Allegaert	2164 Manion Drive	738-7717
Park:	John Orr	2334 Manion Drive	738-0944

The board meets on the third Thursday of each month at 4 p.m. at the Keevers' home. July's meeting will be held on the 20th. If you wish to attend, please check with a board member to be sure there are no changes.

## ANNUAL MEETING

This year's general membership meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 30, at 1 p.m. at The Grange on Highway 101, just south of Sunset Beach Road. Last year when we revised the bylaws many members said that the meeting should be held during the summer. So we changed the fiscal year to end on June 30, and we look forward to a record turnout for the annual meeting. An official agenda, with proposed budget and ballots for election of board members and other matters for which we seek your approval, will be mailed early in July.

## WANTED!!

Candidates for two board vacancies are urgently sought. Norma and Gene Keever both finish their board terms this year. We need at least two candidates for each position. If you can spare the time to attend board meetings and help to do the board's work, please let the nominating committee know you are willing to serve. The committee consists of Marge Bloomfield, chair (738-8672), Bob Black (738-0223) and Louann Riggan (738-5457). A call to any of them and a brief candidate's statement will get your name on the ballot. Deadline for announcing candidacy is June 30, to permit us to include your name on the ballot.

## BEAVERING AWAY

You have all no doubt noticed the feverish building activity going on in Surf Pines. The rumble of construction trucks, the whine of chain saws, the smack of hammers fill the air these days. But there is quieter building activity under way as well, not so welcome to those who live along the lake and creek. Beavers have discovered the joys of Clatsop Plains and have been outpacing human builders in constructing lodges. The result has been blockage of Neacoxie Creek. During the autumn and winter some serious flooding took place downstream until the beavers were removed and the lodges destroyed. Paul See, our neighbor just south of Surf Pines Road, reported that conditions had so improved that trout and wood ducks were back in large numbers and the creek flow was as it used to be years ago. But abruptly last month the flow dropped again and it seems that the beavers are back in the building business.

What appears to be needed is a concerted, continuing effort among those who live along the south end of the lake and along the creek to spot beaver activity when it occurs and to cooperate to clear dams and remove the beavers. Those interested in helping can contact Paul See, 738-5869.



## AQUIFER CONFERENCE

On June 2nd the Soil and Water Conservation District held a conference on the Clatsop Plains aquifer and the dunes. County commissioners, planning officials, city employees, and concerned residents were among the more than 80 people who attended. Five residents represented Surf Pines.

Two major areas of concern were explored: preservation of the purity and safety of the drinking water provided by the aquifer and conservation of the dunes that buffer homes from the effects of wind and water erosion that formerly made much of this coastal area unusable.

### AQUIFER

Kent Mathiot, an experienced hydrogeologist, informed the audience about aquifers, how they function, and their vulnerability to pollution from various sources. This summer the Department of Environmental Quality plans to start another series of water tests of the Clatsop Plains aquifer. Previous tests in the 1980s looked for the presence of nitrates; the new tests will focus on getting a more complete picture of the water composition, including minerals and impurities. Results of these tests will be of obvious interest to Surf Pines Water Association customers.

During discussion following this presentation, it was revealed that Warrenton, which draws its water from the Lewis and Clark River and supplies many homes outside the city, is nearing the limit of the water it can take from the river. The supplier may have to tap into the aquifer, which at present serves only Surf Pines and a few other wells. Not only is demand for water increasing as population grows, but there is a corresponding increase in the possibility of pollution of the aquifer as more septic tanks, pesticides and fertilizers come into use in the area. The suggestion was made that water districts should work together to devise an adequate delivery system and to educate the public about protecting the aquifer.

## DUNE PRESERVATION

Participants also heard Dr. Frank Reckendorf, geologist who has mapped millions of acres of coastal dunes and other soils in Oregon, describe the hazards of building on unstable or conditionally stable dune land. He emphasized the importance of keeping the foredune well covered with vegetation and at its maximum height to protect against wind erosion. If the foredune is lowered and stripped of its stabilizing grasses and shrubs, it could quickly revert to the condition that prevailed before stabilization. The message is loud and clear: **DO NOT** breach the dune in front of your home to give yourself a better ocean view; in the event of a tsunami you could lose both view and home. This coast has been hit by earthquakes and resultant tsunamis throughout its geological history. The lower the primary dune, the more vulnerable is everything behind it.

Rules against driving on the dunes are therefore necessary and must be enforced. In consultation with Clatsop County Sheriff, John Reichl, and Sgt. Ed McFadden of the State Police, a small group of conferees, including two Surf Pines board members, worked on a plan to increase public awareness of the importance of protecting the dunes and on ways to enforce the driving rules.

All of us can help enforce the regulations by reporting details of violations we see to the sheriff's office or to the state police. Enforcement officials have promised to post more, and more durable, signs along the beach and access roads. Rules for use of the beach, including the 25 m.p.h. speed limit, will be publicized in coast holiday literature and a brochure is being developed by Fort Stevens State Park to inform visitors from other areas of the rules.

Surf Pines residents already have this information as part of the Handbook. Before the summer holiday period gets into full swing, refresh your memories about beach use regulations and make sure that your visitors and others who may use your home are aware of them.

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## SPEED LIMITS

Surf Pines also has a 25-mile-an-hour speed limit, and we all know it. But some drivers in Surf Pines still ignore our repeated urgings to respect the limit in the interest of the safety of all of us, themselves included. If we value our private roads because we can limit the amount of traffic on them, we must recognize our own responsibility to uphold reasonable rules for their use.

## ROAD IMPACT FEE

The increase in building activity this year has put great pressure on our road system and the roads have sustained some costly damage. The board has, therefore, decided to levy a road impact fee of \$250 for each new construction, to help us meet the repair costs we face now and will face in the future. Owners of unimproved property have been informed of the fee and contractors will be told of it when they apply for a water hookup. We hope that the membership will ratify this decision at the annual meeting.

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## RENTALS

Homeowners who plan to rent their houses in Surf Pines during the vacation season are reminded that in this coastal beach residential zone short-term rentals of less than a week are forbidden by county ordinance. The county will enforce its rule and violations will be reported.

## MOWING

Many of you may be wondering when the tall grass along our streets is going to be cut. After some search, a new contractor was found and a day set. Unhappily, he ran into problems with his machinery. As the Breeze goes to press, the problems have been solved and by the time you read this we expect that the mowing will be done and our roadsides will be in good trim.

## YARD WORK

Bryan Johnston of Manion Drive (738-7958) is now available to help with mowing, weeding and other yard work. Bryan is hard working, neat and conscientious and his services are on offer for \$6 per hour.



## STREET PARTY



Last July's street party on Lucas Drive was so successful that the hospitality committee is planning a repeat performance. This year the date and time are:

Saturday - August 5  
4:00 to 7:00 PM

Sally Allegaert (738-7717) is in charge and will be delighted to hear from you with ideas and offers of help.

BUT MOST OF ALL, PLAN TO COME



JUNE, 1995

SURF PINES ASSOCIATION - "BREEZE"  
2003 MANION DRIVE  
WARRENTON, OR 97146

